

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 02502 020847Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 /079 W  
-----021923Z 029156 /41

R 011742Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9626  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 2502

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, SP  
SUBJECT: CENTER-LEFT COMING UNRAVELED?

REF: MADRID 1883

1. THE UNDIAGNOSED POLITICAL MALADY WHICH HAS STRUCK "CENTRO DEMOCRATICO" APPEARS TO HAVE SPREAD, IN A CONSIDERABLY MORE VIRULENT FORM, TO THE "OUTSIDER" SOCIAL DEMOCRATS OF MURILLO (PSOE-H), CANTAERO (RSE), GARCIA LOPEZ (PSDE), AND LASUEN (FSD). THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST ALLIANCE (ASD), WHICH CONSISTS OF THE FIRST THREE PARTIES, AND THE UNION OF THE CENTER-LEFT (UCI) WHICH ALLIES ASD WITH LASUEN'S FSD HAVE BEEN SHAKEN BY:

--A FURTHER SERIES OF HIGH-LEVEL RESIGNATIONS FROM PSDE, WHICH  
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HAS SERVED TO UNDERLINE THE REPUTATION OF THE CONTROVERSIAL GARCIA LOPEZ AS A POLITICAL LONER;  
--RECENT HARD WORDS BETWEEN MURILLO AND CANTARERO WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN MURILLO'S UNILATERAL ANNOUNCEMENT THAT RSE IS NO LONGER A MEMBER OF ASD, AND  
--RUMORS THAT THERE MAY BE DEFECTIONS FROM FSD AT ITS MADRID CONGRESS THIS WEEKEND, WITH DISSIDENT ELEMENTS JOINING UP WITH

FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ'S PSD (WHICH ITSELF SPLIT OFF FROM FSD A FEW MONTHS BACK) IN "CENTRO DEMOCRATICO."

2. THE CANTAERO-MURILLO SET-TO BEGAN WHEN THE FORMER CRITIZED MURILLO'S CONTINUING SHIRLL ATTACKS AGAINST THE PSOE, EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY OF SOCIALIST UNITY, AND MADE PUBLIC HIS INTENTION TO MEET WITH PSOE SECGEN GONZALEZ. MURILLO THEN TOOK OFF ON CANTARERO, MOST RECENTLY LABELING HIM THE LEADER OF A PHANTOM PARTY AND THEN STATING PUBLICLY THAT THE PSOE-H WOULD NOT APPEAR ON THE SAME ELECTORAL LISTS WITH RSE AND CONSIDERED CANTARERO'S GROUP NO LONGER TO BE INCLUDED IN ASD. GARCIA LOPEZ AND LASUEN HAVE ATTEMPTED TO POUR OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS, BUT CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE ALREADY HAS BEEN DONE, PARTICULARLY BY MURILLO'S VERBAL VIOLENCE, AND GARCIA LOPEZ AND LASUEN HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH OF THEIR OWN PROBLEMS IN ANY CASE.

3. COMMENT: WE READ THIS SQUABBING AS AN INDICATION THAT PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ, PERHAPS DUE PARTLY TO CONCERN OVER ANTAGONIZING THE PSOE, HAS DASHED THESE GROUPS' HOPES (REF) THAT HE WOULD LET THEM HITCH THEIR ELECTORAL WAGON TO HIS STAR, AND AS YET ANOTHER SIGN THAT WHATEVER ELECTORAL PLANNING HE LOOKS TOWARD PROBABLY INVOLVES THE "CENTRO DEMOCRATICO," CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC "TEAM," AND THE REGIME PROGRESSIVE "FEDERACION SOCIAL INDEPENDIENTE." WITHOUT SUAREZ, ASD AND UCI WOULD LIKELY BE HARD-PRESSED TO AVOID ELECTORAL EMBARRASSMENT. AND TEMPERGROW SHORT AS THE HEAT BUILDS. EATON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** REPORTS, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PINT, SP  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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